

ANTIBIOTICS ANNUAL—1958-1959—Edited by Henry Welch, Ph.D., and Felix Marti-Ibanez, M.D. Medical Encyclopedia, Inc., 30 East 60th Street, New York 22, N. Y., 1959. 1107 pages, \$12.00.

The papers of the Annual Antibiotics Conference which is held in Washington in the fall appear each year in a fat book of which this is the most recent. Many observers believe that the sponsors of this meeting exercise no critique whatever in the selection of material to be presented before the conference. Inspection of these reports confirms this point of view. A considerable number of the papers are exceedingly trivial and uncritical. A few offer significant observations bearing on either fundamental or practical aspects of antimicrobial therapy.

Every specialist in the field of infectious disease must have these Antibiotic Annuals at hand. An unsatisfying yearly chore is the winnowing of the small amount of wheat from the immense amount of chaff. This task requires expert knowledge. The practicing physician should shun these books lest he acquire more misinformation than useful new knowledge.

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REHABILITATION IN INDUSTRY—Donald A. Covalt, M.D., Professor, Department of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, New York University College of Medicine; Associate Director, Institute of Physical Medicine and Rehabilitation, New York University, Bellevue Medical Center. Grune & Stratton, Inc., New York, N. Y., 1958. 154 pages, \$6.00.

This book consists of eleven chapters, each chapter is written by a different author or authors. The book is edited by Donald A. Covalt, M.D., with a foreword by Howard A. Rusk, M.D. The authors discuss such subjects as rehabilitation in peripheral vascular disease, soft tissue injury, fracture rehabilitation, amputations, peripheral nerve lesions, management of patients with spinal cord injuries, head injuries, back injuries, industrial hand injuries, and a final chapter on vocational placement of disabled workers.

The book is of particular interest to those in the field of rehabilitation which would include physical therapists, occupational therapists, social workers, vocational counselors, and psychiatrists.

W. H. NORTHWAY, M.D.

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SURGERY OF THE PROSTATE—Henry M. Weyrauch, M.D., F.A.C.S., Clinical Professor of Surgery (Urology); Chief, Division of Urology, Stanford University School of Medicine. W. B. Saunders Company, Philadelphia, 1959. 535 pages, \$15.00.

This volume is written by the chief of the division of urology of the Stanford University School of Medicine on what has been for years one of the most controversial subjects in urology. It is a tremendously complete and valuable work, and a must for every urological surgeon. Nothing approaching it in scope and in detail has previously appeared.

It is an exhaustive consideration of the entire subject. There are introductory chapters on the history of the several operations and on the anatomy and pathology of the prostate. This is followed by discussions of the diagnosis, the indications for operation and the choice of procedure, the preparation of the patient, and the selection of the anesthetic. Following the chapters on the technique of the various operations, the longest chapter in the book is on "Post-operative Care and the Treatment of Complications." This is a gem.

The author's exposition of the different approaches to the prostate and types of procedure is singularly free from any apparent prejudice, and he gives the advantages and disadvantages of each operation with equal clarity and candor. This is admirable, in view of the fact that for so many

years such acrimonious arguments have arisen between the exponents of the different operations. Even recent publications nearly always show a prejudice, sometimes even unconscious, for the method which the author has found most satisfactory in his own hands.

The technique of the different operations on the prostate, with numerous variations, is described in meticulous detail, emphasizing those features which the author feels may mark the difference between success and failure, between a placid or stormy convalescence. Some of these pearls may be valuable suggestions even to the most experienced prostatic surgeon. While the captious critic may consider some of them unnecessary or even ill-advised, they are all worthy of thought, even by the surgeon whose experience leads him to prefer to make his own decisions.

While primarily of interest to the man actively concerned with the surgery of the prostate personally, the book contains so much fundamental information, and is so well presented, that it should be available also to students, interns, and physicians, all of whom can get from it a much needed breadth of understanding of the problems of prostatism. It is a wonderfully fine book.

LYLE G. CRAIG, M.D.

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TEXTBOOK OF SURGERY—Third Edition—Edited by H. Fred Moseley, M.A., D.M., M.Ch. (Oxon.), F.A.C.S., F.R.C.S. (Eng.), F.R.C.S. (C); Assistant Professor of Surgery, McGill University; Associate Surgeon, Royal Victoria Hospital, Montreal, Canada. The C. V. Mosby Company, St. Louis, Missouri, 1959. 1336 pages, \$17.00.

This is the third edition of Moseley's Textbook of Surgery. The textbook has the unique feature of being illustrated with the drawings by Dr. Netter.

Dr. Moseley has in effect edited the book and it consists of 43 chapters by 20 or more different authors.

This book is a student textbook of surgery. It will also be valuable to general practitioners. It is not a book for specialists. The material is carefully integrated and selected. An effort has been made to include the rapidly advancing specialties of surgery and to bring the reader up-to-date in the fields of chemotherapy, anticoagulants and improved surgical techniques in the cardiac and pulmonary fields. Pediatric surgery is included. Sections on urology, endocrine surgery and orthopedics are also good for a general surgical textbook.

The book is smaller than Allen's textbook or Christopher's textbook and is somewhat simpler to read and follow. The drawings are beautifully done and it is a simpler text for the student than either of the other two. However, the amount of information contained within it is not nearly as complete as in the other two textbooks of surgery.

It is recommended for the student who wants to rapidly get a general surgical knowledge and background without feeling that he will progress into a surgical specialty in his residency years. It is also recommended for general practitioners.

VICTOR RICHARDS, M.D.

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PRINCIPLES OF INTERNAL MEDICINE—Third Edition—Editors: T. R. Harrison, Raymond D. Adams, Ivan L. Bennett, Jr., William H. Resnik, George W. Thorn, M. M. Wintrobe. The Blakiston Division, McGraw-Hill Book Company, Inc., New York, 1958. 1782 pages, plus 57 pages of index, \$18.50.

The publication of the first edition of this massive Principles of Internal Medicine in 1950 marked a milestone in medical textbooks. It attempted, and in considerable degree succeeded in applying the basic sciences to clinical medicine in the same fashion that they are taught to the